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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/885,095

06/21/2001

Nobuhiko Yasui

2001_0890A

3940

513

7590

05/05/2004

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EXAMINER

TWEEL JR, JOHN ALEXANDER

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2636

DATE MAILED: 05/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/885,095

Applicant(s)

YASUI ET AL.

Examiner

John A. Tweel, Jr.

Art Unit

2636

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2,4,5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
 - Page 2, Line 5: An article is needed before the phrase "display image" such as --a--
 - Page 10, Line 12: An article is needed before the word "equation" such as --an--.
 - Page 11, Line 22: The phrase "selected now" does not make grammatical sense.
 - Page 11, Line 25: An article is needed before "display" such as --a--.
 - Page 13, Line 7: It is unknown whether the word "thus" is needed. The word --the-- would suffice.
 - Page 13, Line 15: The word "if" should be replaced with --it--.
 - Page 14, Lines 13-14: The beginning of this sentence "What is good, as the those..." makes almost no sense.
 - Page 18, Line 12: The word "if" should be replace with --it--.
 - Page 19, Line 24: A word such as --the-- is needed before "Claims".
 - Page 20, Line 1: The word "appeared" does not fit the previous part of the sentence. The word --that-- should be inserted before or the word changed to --appearing--.

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- Page 21, Lines 24-25: The specification mentions a Figure 44. There is no Figure 44 in the drawing package.
- Page 26, Line 4: A word such as --an-- is needed before "exemplary".
Appropriate correction is required.

2. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

As noted above.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

3. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The reception of steering angle and deriving an estimated path for a vehicle as well as overlaying an image on a display is not new in the prior art. Also, the rear-view monitor for use in vehicles taught by **Ishikawa et al** [U.S. 6,218,960] includes first and second image processing means. However, the two image processing means are not used to derive a farthest point and the estimated path of the vehicle. The claimed intermittent updating of the overlaid path is found in **Okamoto** [U.S. 6,587,760];

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however, the filing date of the instant application is earlier than the filing date of the reference.

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Schofield et al [U.S. 5,949,331] includes at least one image capture device.

Iisaka et al [U.S. 6,366,221] uses a rudder angle sensor and CPU for calculating an estimated path.

Yoshida et al [U.S. 6,369,701] generates a lower viewpoint image based on captured images.

Shimizu et al [U.S. 6,483,442] requires the driver to stop a vehicle alongside a parking position.

Ishida et al [U.S. 6,539,288] generates a vehicle overlaid image.


5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John A. Tweel, Jr. whose telephone number is 703 308 7826. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 10-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeff Hofsass can be reached on 703 305 4717. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JAT
5/2/04



JOHN TWEEL
PRIMARY EXAMINER